

CHAPTER 12—VIRGIN ISLANDS**SUBCHAPTER I—GENERAL PROVISIONS**

- Sec.
 1541. Organization and status.
 1542. Voting franchise; discrimination prohibited.
 1543. United States citizenship requirement for government officials.
 1544. Reports by Governor; jurisdiction of Secretary of the Interior; exceptions.
 1545. Lease and sale of public property; conveyance of title in certain lands to the government of Virgin Islands.
 1546. Authorization of appropriations.

SUBCHAPTER II—BILL OF RIGHTS

1561. Rights and prohibitions.

SUBCHAPTER III—LEGISLATIVE BRANCH

1571. Legislature.
 1572. Legislators.
 1573. Time, frequency, and duration of regular sessions; special sessions; place of holding.
 1574. Legislative powers and activities.
 1574-1. Applicability of laws referred to in section 502(a)(1) of Covenant to Establish a Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.
 1574a. Revenue bonds or other obligations.
 1574b. Federal guarantee for issuance of revenue bonds or other obligations.
 1574c. Priority for payment of principal and interest of revenue bonds or other obligations.
 1574d. Repealed.
 1575. Legislative procedure.
 1576. General elections; time; transfer of Council functions, property, etc.

SUBCHAPTER IV—EXECUTIVE BRANCH

1591. Governor and Lieutenant Governor; election; eligibility; official residence; powers and duties; report.
 1592. Repealed.
 1593. Initiative and recall.
 1594. Repealed.
 1595. Vacancy in office of Governor or Lieutenant Governor.
 1596. Repealed.
 1597. Reorganization of government.
 1598. Omitted.
 1599. Transfer of functions from government controller for Virgin Islands to Inspector General, Department of the Interior.

SUBCHAPTER V—JUDICIAL BRANCH

1611. District Court of Virgin Islands; local courts; jurisdiction; practice and procedure.
 1612. Jurisdiction of District Court.
 1613. Relations between courts of United States and courts of Virgin Islands; review by United States Court of Appeals for Third Circuit; reports to Congress; rules.
 1613a. Appellate jurisdiction of District Court; procedure; review by United States Court of Appeals for Third Circuit; rules; appeals to appellate court.
 1614. Judges of District Court.
 1615. Judicial divisions.
 1616. Trial by jury.
 1617. United States attorney; appointment; duties.

SUBCHAPTER VI—SYSTEM OF ACCOUNTS

1631. Establishment and maintenance; scope.
 1632. Repealed.

SUBCHAPTER VII—FISCAL PROVISIONS

1641. Method of payment of official salaries.
 1642. Use of certain proceeds for expenditure; income tax obligations of inhabitants.

- Sec.
 1642a. Availability of collected customs duties for expenditures as Legislature may provide.
 1643. Import provisions with respect to trademarks.
 1644. Import duties on articles entering United States or possessions from Virgin Islands.
 1645. Remittance of duties, taxes, and fees to be collected in next fiscal year; authorization, prerequisites, amount, etc.

CONSTITUTIONS FOR VIRGIN ISLANDS AND GUAM: ESTABLISHMENT; CONGRESSIONAL AUTHORIZATION

Pub. L. 94-584, Oct. 21, 1976, 90 Stat. 2899, as amended by Pub. L. 96-597, title V, §501, Dec. 24, 1980, 94 Stat. 3479; Pub. L. 111-194, §2, June 30, 2010, 124 Stat. 1310, provided:

“[Section 1. Authorization to organize governments] That the Congress, recognizing the basic democratic principle of government by the consent of the governed, authorizes the peoples of the Virgin Islands and of Guam, respectively, to organize governments pursuant to constitutions of their own adoption as provided in this Act.

“SEC. 2. [Constitutional conventions and draft provisions] (a) The Legislatures of the Virgin Islands and Guam, respectively, are authorized to call constitutional conventions to draft, within the existing territorial-Federal relationship, constitutions for the local self-government of the people of the Virgin Islands and Guam.

“(b) Such constitutions shall—

“(1) recognize, and be consistent with, the sovereignty of the United States over the Virgin Islands and Guam, respectively, and the supremacy of the provisions of the Constitution, treaties, and laws of the United States applicable to the Virgin Islands and Guam, respectively, including, but not limited to, those provisions of the Organic Act [section 1405 et seq. of this title] and Revised Organic Act of the Virgin Islands [this chapter] and the Organic Act of Guam [section 1421 et seq. of this title] which do not relate to local self-government.

“(2) provide for a republican form of government, consisting of three branches: executive, legislative, and judicial;

“(3) contain a bill of rights;

“(4) deal with the subject matter of those provisions of the Revised Organic Act of the Virgin Islands of 1954, as amended, and the Organic Act of Guam, as amended, respectively, which relate to local self-government;

“(5) with reference to Guam, provided that the voting franchise may be vested only in residents of Guam who are citizens of the United States;

“(6) provide for a system of local courts consistent with the provisions of the Revised Organic Act of the Virgin Islands, as amended; and

“(7) provide for the establishment of a system of local courts the provisions of which shall become effective no sooner than upon the enactment of legislation regulating the relationship between the local courts of Guam with the Federal judicial system.

“SEC. 3. [Selection and qualification of members] The members of such constitutional conventions shall be chosen as provided by the laws of the Virgin Islands and Guam, respectively (enacted after the date of enactment of this Act [Oct. 21, 1976]): *Provided, however*, That no person shall be eligible to be a member of the constitutional conventions, unless he is a citizen of the United States and qualified to vote in the Virgin Islands and Guam, respectively.

“SEC. 4. [Submittal of proposed constitutions to governors and President] The conventions shall submit to the Governor of the Virgin Islands a proposed constitution for the Virgin Islands and to the Governor of Guam a proposed constitution for Guam which shall comply with the requirements set forth in section 2(b) above. Such constitutions shall be submitted to the President of the United States by the Governors of the Virgin Islands and Guam.